THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) The present Chairman - cum - Managing Director of British India Corporation Ltd., was appointed to his post after the then Appointments Committee of Cabinet's approval had been received, although Public Enterprises Selection Board was not consulted. The approval of the Appointments Committee of Cabinet was received on 5th May, 1991.

Sale of Indira Vikas Patra

1173. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of Indira Vikas Patra has come down drastically during 1990; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to augment their sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Dissatisfaction over functioning of the Chief Election Commissioner

1174. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether almost all the national political parties have expressed their dissatisfaction over the functioning of the Chief Election Commissioner, during the elections to the Lok Sabha;

(b) whether Government propose to take any action to streamline the working of the Election Commission to instil greater confidence among the political parties and the general public; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Certain political parties have expressed dissatisfaction over C.E.C.'s functioning.

(b) and (c) Certain electoral reforms pertaining to Election Commission are on the anvil which are contained in the Constitution (Seventeeth Amendment) Bill, 1990 and the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1990 which are pending consideration in the Rajya Sabha. However, in view of the happenings in the last general elections, a greater indepth study will also be undertaken for the purpose.

Steps proposed by Empowered Committee to tackle sickness in deep sea fishing industry

1175. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the steps proposed by the Empowered Committee Chaired by Finance Secretary to tackle sickness in deep sea fishing industry;

(b) what steps are being taken to supply fuel at international prices to trawler operators; and

(c) what steps are being taken to rationalise prices of oil for fishing industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Government, on the recommendation of the Empowered Committee, has announced a revised scheme for the rehabilitation of sick but viable deep sea fishing companies. A copy of the detailed parameters is enclosed.

(b) Government in the Ministry of Commerce have reported that they